

## Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 198894 TOSEC 100014

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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 198894 TOSEC 100014

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT LOURENCO MARQUES 915 DTD 21 AUG 75

QUOTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOURENCO MARQUES 915

EXDIS

FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER FROM SENATOR DICK CLARK

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP (CLARK, CODEL), PFOR, US, MZ

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH PRESIDENT SAMORA MACHEL

REF: LOURENCO MARQUES 904

1. I MET WITH PRESIDENT SAMORA MACHEL THIS MORNING FOR ABOUT AN HOUR. FOREIGN MINISTER CHISSANO WAS PRESENT FOR MOST OF THE CONVERSATION. MACHEL USED AN INTERPRETER BUT SEEMED TO UNDERSTAND A GOOD BIT OF THE ENGLISH. PRESS AND CAMERA MEN WERE IN HIS OFFICE WHEN I ARRIVED AND REMAINED WHILE WE EXCHANGED PLEASANTRIES.

2. THE TONE OF THE MEETING, AS SET BY PRESIDENT MACHEL, WAS WARM AND FRIENDLY. THERE WAS A MARKED ABSENCE OF CRITICISM IN CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 198894 TOSEC 100014

WHAT HE SAID AND HIS EMPHASIS WAS ON THE FUTURE RATHER THAN THE PAST. "THE WAR IS OVER", HE SAID. REFERRING TO HIS RECENT MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT FORD WHICH HE SAID INDICATED HIS DESIRE TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, HE TURNED TO FOREIGN MINISTER

CHISSANO AND INSTRUCTED HIM TO WORK OUT THE DETAILS "BETWEEN THE FOREIGN MINISTRIES".

3. SAMORA MACHEL PLACED GREAT STRESS ON MOZAMBIQUE'S DESIRE "TO PRESERVE PEACE IN THIS SIDE OF AFRICA AND TO MAKE THE INDIAN OCEAN A ZONE OF PEACE". HE DWELT AT SOME LENGTH ON TWO SEPARATE OCCASIONS ON THE NEED "TO SEE A PEACEFUL SOLUTION IN RHODESIA" AND "TO FIND MACHINERY TO RESOLVE THE CONFLICTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA".

4. IN THIS CONNECTION I HAVE THE VERY DISTINCT IMPRESSION, STRENGTHENED BY FOREIGN MINISTER CHISSANO'S REMARKS YESTERDAY, THAT MACHEL IS QUITE CONCERNED ABOUT THE POSSIBLE IMPACT ON MOZAMBIQUE OF ARMED CONFLICT IN RHODESIA. "WE ARE NOT FOR 'DIALOGUE' BUT WE ARE FOR NEGOTIATIONS", MACHEL SAID AT ONE POINT, ADDING, "WE THINK TODAY THERE ARE THE NECESSARY CONDITIONS FOR NEGOTIATIONS".

5. IN RESPONSE TO HIS QUESTION REGARDING THE ATTITUDE OF THE UNITED STATES TOWARD MOZAMBIQUE, I REFERRED TO PRESIDENT FORD'S LETTER AND TO THE PUBLICLY STATED POSITIONS OF ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS BEFORE THE AFRICA SUBCOMMITTEE. SPECIFICALLY, I MENTIONED ASSISTANT SECRETARY DAVIS' ASSURANCE THAT THE U.S. WOULD LOOK FAVORABLY ON A REQUEST FOR BILATERAL ASSISTANCE; AID TESTIMONY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE CITING WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER BALANCE OF PAYMENTS ASSISTANCE; AND THE DISPOSITION TO LOOK FAVORABLY ON LONG TERM LOW INTEREST CREDIT FOR FOOD SHIPMENTS.

6. PRESIDENT MACHEL STRESSED MOZAMBIQUE'S DESIRE TO RETAIN ITS FREEDOM OF ACTION AND INDEPENDENCE. HE SPECIFICALLY SAID HE DID NOT WISH TO RELATE TO U.S. AS PART OF ANY BLOC, BUT ON THE BASIS OF MUTUAL RESPECT FOR EACH OTHER'S CHOICE OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SYSTEMS. HE NOTED, IN THIS CONNECTION, THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS RELATIONS "WITH THE SOVIET UNION, CHINA AND OTHER COUNTRIES WITH DIFFERENT SOCIAL SYSTEMS".

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 198894 TOSEC 100014

UM THESE WERE, I BELIEVE, THE SALIENT POINTS OF THE CONVERSATION. MACHEL IS AN INTERESTING MAN; STRONG AND ARTICULATE, WITH DEEP CONVICTIONS BUT NO BITTERNESS OR STRIDENCY. THIS AFTERNOON WE ARE BEING TAKEN TO MEET THE THIRD OF MOZAMBIQUE'S LEADING FIGURES, MARCELINO DOS SANTOS. TONIGHT THE FOREIGN MINISTER IS OFFERING A DINNER.

8. I AM STAYING IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH THE OFFICIALS OF THE U.S. CONSULATE WHO SEEM TO BE BEARING UP ADMIRABLY UNDER WHAT MUST HAVE BEEN TRYING CIRCUMSTANCES. INCIDENTALLY, IN THIS RESPECT, WE HAVE SOUGHT AND RECEIVED SPECIFIC ASSURANCE FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT THEY DO NOT INTEND A BREAK IN THE U.S. PRESENCE HERE. THEIR RECENT LETTER, IT WAS EXPLAINED,

SIMPLY SOUGHT TO APPLY TO THE UNITED STATES THE SAME CRITERIA WHICH HAVE BEEN APPLIED TO PERSONNEL OF OTHER CONSULATES WHO WERE HERE PRE-INDEPENDENCE. THIS SEEMS CONSISTENT WITH THE UNMISTAKABLE ASSUMPTION ON THE PART OF BOTH THE PRESIDENT AND FOREIGN MINISTER THAT FULL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND MOZAMBIQUE WILL DEVELOP AND THAT MUTUAL COOPERATION IS POSSIBLE.

REED

UNQUOTE

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